

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

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O 141435Z AUG 78 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2105

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMCONSUL DURBAN

UNCLAS PRETORIA 4707

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: UANC REJECTS ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE AND
EXPELS DISSIDENTS

REF: A)PRETORIA 4673: B) PRETORIA 4477

1. SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, A UANC CONFERENCE MET ON
AUGUST 13 AND REJECTED ATTENDANCE AT AN ALL-PARTIES
CONFERENCE WHICH WOULD DELAY INDEPENDENCE THE CONFERENCE ALSO
EXPELLED SIX OF ITS HIGH RANKING MEMBERS "FOR EQUESTONING
THE PARTY'S LEADERSHIP". MEANWHILE, MUZOREWA REPORTEDLY
ADDRESSED A RALLY AT WHICH OVER 200 "PRO-GOVERNMENT GUERRILLAS"
PROVIDED SECURITY. END SUMMARY.

2. THE UANC HELD A CONFERENCE IN SALISBURY ON AUGUST 13
WHICH REPORTEDLY PASSED RESOLUTIONS REJECTING AN ALL-PARTIES
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CONFERENCE WHICH "WOULD SERIOUSLY UNDERMINE THE PROSPECTS OF
AN ADULT SUFFRAGE ELECTION AND DELAY INDEPENDENCE" AND
ASKING MUZOREWA TO CONTINUE TO LEAD AND SPEAK FOR THE PARTY
"AS HE SEES FIT."

3. THE CONFERENCE ALSO REPORTEDLY EXPELLED FORMER
MINISTER JUSTICE BYRON HOVE; UANC LONDON CHAIRMAN, PERCY

MUROMBE; FORMER TREASURER GENERAL, ARTHUR KANODEREKA; SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, MAZ CHINGWIDA; SECRETARY FOR LABOR, Z.E.M. MACHENJE; AND DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION, JOHN KUREWA. ALL EXCEPT MUROMBE WERE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS. THEY WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN EXPELLED FOR QUESTIONING THE PARTY'S LEADERSHIP.

4. PRESS ACCOUNTS STATE THAT THE CONFERENCE WAS CALLED, AND THE EXPULSIONS ANNOUNCED, IN REACTION TO A SIMMERING "REVOLT" IN PARTY RANKS AND AN ATTEMPT TO OUST MUZOREWA AS LEADER. REPORTEDLY THE DECISION TO EXPEL WAS MADE BY MUZOREWA PERSONALLY AND THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE WAS BYPASSED (SEE REF A).

5. MEANWHILE, PRESS ACCOUNTS FROM SALISBURY SAY THAT ON AUGUST 12, MUZOREWA ADDRESSED A CROWD OF 3,000 IN THE MSANE TRIBAL TRUST LAND AREA NORTHEAST OF SALISBURY. ON HAND, REPORTEDLY TO PROVIDE SECURITY, WERE OVER 200 HEAVILY ARMED "PRO-GOVERNMENT GUERRILLAS". MUZOREWA, WHO WAS PHOTOGRAPHED WAVING AN AK RIFLE ABOVE HIS HEAD, REPORTEDLY SAID IT WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT AND HISTORIC MEETING HE HAD ADDRESSED BECAUSE, FOR THE FIRST TIME, NATIONALIST GUERRILLAS WERE PRESENT NOW AS A PART OF THE SECURITY FORCES. ZAPU REPRESENTATIVE JOSIAH CHINAMANO IS QUOTED AS SAYING, HOWEVER, THE "GUERRILLAS" WERE JUST UNEMPLOYED YOUTHS WHO WERE RECRUITED TO ACT AS GUERRILLAS AND PROVIDED THE WEAPONS AND UNIFORMS.

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